BPL Families in Himachal Pradesh benefited through PDS

2682. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people (families) below poverty line in Himachal Pradesh who actually get sugar, rice and kerosene oil from PDS prior to 1st July, 2000 and after 1st July, 2000, separately, district-wise; and

(b) the amount of subsidy on sugar and quota thereof for the PDS earmarked for this year for Himachal Pradesh, month-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) As per the Government of India estimate the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the State of Himachal Pradesh is 4.26 lakhs on the basis of 1995 population. The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has identified 2.77 lakh BPL families who have been issued ration cards and are drawing PDS rations as per the reports received from them. The district-wise information on BPL families is not available with the Ministry.

(b) (i) Based on projected population as on 1.3.1999, the monthly quota of sugar for Himachal Pradesh from March to June, 2000 is 4582 MTs for Himachal Pradesh. From July, 2000 onwards the quota is 4330 MTs. In addition to this Annual festival quota for Himachal Pradesh is 608 MTs.

(ii) Subsidy on sugar is not earmarked district-wise/State-wise. An amount of Rs. 110 crores has been provided as subsidy on sugar for the financial year 2000-2001.